(ग) इस योजना के क्रियान्वयन में विलंब होने के क्या कारण हैं ?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में शिक्षा और संस्कृति विभागों में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एल० पी० शाही) : (क) और (ख) राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति, 1986 में चुनिन्दा क्षेत्रों में नौकरियों से डिग्री अलग करने के सम्बन्ध में शुरूआत किए जाने की परिकल्पना की गई है । तथापि, इस प्रस्ताव के कार्यान्वयन की योजना को अभी अन्तिम रूप नहीं दिया गया है ।

(ग) इस प्रस्ताव के कार्यान्वयन के लिए पर्याप्त प्रारंभिक कार्य करने की जरूरत है। कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय (कार्मिक तथा प्रशिक्षण विभाग) ने उन पदों का पता लगाने के लिए विभिन्न नौकरियों से संबंधित कार्यों का विश्लेषण करना शुरू कर दिया है जिनके लिए विश्वविद्यालय डिग्री की अपेक्षा को अलग किया जा सकता है। इस बीच शिक्षा विभाग ने राष्ट्रीय परीक्षण सेवा (एन.टी.एस.) स्थापित करने की कार्रवाई भी शुरू कर दी है । यह सेवा विशिष्ट नौकरियों के लिए स्वैच्छिक आधार पर उम्मीदवारों की योग्यता में क्षमता और दक्षता प्रमाणित करेगी । स्वायत्त संगठन के रूप में राष्ट्रीय परीक्षण सेवा (एन. टी. एस.) स्थापित करना सिद्धांत रूप में स्वीकार किया गया है। इस संबध में आगे की कार्रवाई की जा रही है ।

Ill effect for potassium Iodate used for Iodisation of salt

*409. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that potassium iodate used for iodisation of salt is poisorous and unsuitable for human consumptions;

(b) whether it is also a fact that compulsory consumption of iodised salt by people who do not need iodine supplementation is going to have ill-effect on their health;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the sale of normal salt without iodine is being banned in Delhi; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor and how the people who do not need iodine supplementation are to meet their requirements of normal salt without iodine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No, Sir. Salt iodisation by potassium iodate is totally safe in concentrations used for salt fortification and is suitable under the climatic conditions prevailing in our country.

(b) No, Sir. The level of iodisation of salt has been prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 taking into account acceptable levels of iodine in-take even by normally healthy individuals.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The Delhi Administration has not yet banned the sale of non-iodised salt. However, in view of the high incidence of goitre as revealed in the surveys conducted by the Directorate General of Health Services and the Institute of Nuclear Modicines and Allied Sciences, Delhi, the Delhi Administration has been advised to ban the sale of non-iodised salt.

Impact of hikes in railway frieght on coal prices

@*409-A. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made about the cumulative impact of the proposed hikes in the railway freight on the prices of coal for consumers in different parts of the country; and

(b) what is the likely increase in the cost of power generation as a result thereof?

@Previously Starred Question 370 transferred from the 21st March, 1988.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It will vary depending on the location of the Power House. However, based on the increase in freight rate for the average lead, Department of Power have estimated that the average increase in the cost of power generation would be 0.07 paise per unit.

Clearance of Railway lines in Andhra Pradesh

*410. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three survey reports new Railway lines in Andhra Pradesh namely Bhadrachalam to Kovvur, Nadikude to Venkatagiri and Nandyal to Yarragunta are awaiting clearance and sanction from the Railway Board; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in sanctioning these lines, especially in view of the need for development of backward regions in upland areas of coastal districts of Rayalaseema and Telangana?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Promotion of literacy for SC/ST

*411. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme for promotion of literacy amongst the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the steps taken to implement the scheme in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) The Government has accorded priority to the promotion of literacy among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Special measures taken in this regard are as follows:—

(i) State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been advised—

(1) to accord priority in covering districts having literacy rate below the national average under Adult Education Programme.

(2) to ensure that minimum coverage of SC/ST should be 30 per cent and 16 per cent respectively.

(3) to open Adult Education Centres in bastis of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.

(ii) Specific funds are being earmarked under Special Component Plan and Tribal Sub-Plan under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rural Functional Literacy Projects.

(iii) Promotion of literacy has been identified as one of the five Technology Missions with a view to applying technology and scientific research for the benefit of the deprived sections of the society The objective of National Literacy Mission, the name given to Technology Mission for Eradication of Illiteracy, is to impart functional literacy to 80 million illeterate persons in 15—15 age-group by 1995 with the focus on rural areas, particularly persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.

(iv) The Scheme of "Operation Blackboard" has been designed to implement the National Policy that all children who attain the age of about 11 years by 1990 will have had 5 years of schooling and by 1995, all children will be provided free and compulsory education upto 14 years of age. In the selection of blocks under "Operation Blackboard", preference would be given to those blocks which are educationally disadvantaged and have concentration of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Preference would also be given to trained teachers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the appointments of teachers.